



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to resolution 1053 (1996) of 23 April 1996, by which the Security Council requested me to maintain the International Commission of Inquiry (Rwanda) and to submit a report on its activities by 1 October 1996. As members of the Council are aware, the Commission has been investigating reports of arms flows to the former Rwandan government forces and allegations that those forces are receiving military training in order to destabilize Rwanda, in violation of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

Following the adoption of resolution 1053 (1996), I approached the Governments of Rwanda, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire to ascertain their readiness to receive the International Commission of Inquiry. On the basis of these approaches, and in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission, it was then decided to reconvene the Commission, which returned to its administrative base at Nairobi on 12 July. After resuming its contacts with government and other sources of information in Kenya, the Commission proceeded to Rwanda from 24 to 29 July, where it met with the Vice-President and other senior officials of the Government and armed forces.

From 11 to 17 August, the Commission visited the United Republic of Tanzania and met with the Prime Minister and other senior government officials. The Commission was also authorized to visit Rwandan refugee camps in Tanzania from 28 to 30 August. The Chairman and two members of the Commission subsequently visited South Africa from 1 to 7 September, where they met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and other officials with information relevant to the Commission's inquiries. During the week of 16 September, the Commission visited Uganda, where it met with two Deputy Prime Ministers and other senior officials.

In pursuing the lines of inquiry that it has opened, the Commission has also contacted several other Governments, as well as the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994), the International Tribunal for Rwanda, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. In particular, the Commission has been inquiring into fresh allegations that the former Rwandan government forces and the Interahamwe militia are continuing to



receive military training in order to destabilize Rwanda and that they are expanding and diversifying their methods of fund raising to buy arms for use against Rwanda.

The Commission has received a large volume of information and detailed allegations from many sources, including government officials. The Commission is currently reviewing and analysing this data, while awaiting replies from the Governments it has contacted with specific questions concerning apparent breaches of the arms embargo. The Chairman of the Commission has therefore asked me for additional time in which to complete this work and prepare a report on the outcome and conclusions of his current investigations.

Accordingly, I intend, subject to the Council's concurrence, to request the Commission to submit to me a comprehensive report on its activities by 31 October 1996, which I will then make available to the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would bring the above to the attention of the members of the Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI
